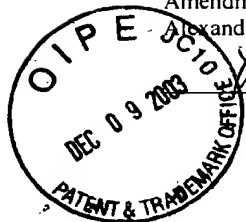


Docket No. 10806-219

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Fee Amendment; Commissioner for Patents; P.O. Box 1450; Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 4, 2003.



**PATENT
RECEIVED**

DEC 12 2003

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Ramona J. Sessenden

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Ib Mendel-Hartvig et al : Paper No.:
Serial No.: 09/972,882 : Group Art Unit: 1641
Filing Date: October 10, 2001 : Examiner: G. Counts
For: **Assay Method and Kit Therefor**

REQUEST FOR THREE MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME

Mail Stop Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Submitted herewith is an Amendment in response to the Official Action dated June 4, 2003. Applicants petition the Commissioner for Patents to extend the time for response to the Official Action dated June 4, 2003 for three months from September 4, 2003 to December 4, 2003.

The extension fee of \$950.00 should be charged to our Visa credit card. Form PTO-2038 is enclosed. Any deficiency or overpayment should be charged or credited to Deposit Account No. 04-1133.

12/11/2003 MMEKONEN 00000117 09972882

01 FC:1253

950.00 DP

Respectfully submitted,

Holly D. Kozlowski

Holly D. Kozlowski, Reg. No. 30,468
Dinsmore & Shohl LLP
1900 Chemed Center
255 East Fifth Street
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202
(513) 977-8568